



**County Administrative Office**  
**Governmental & Legislative Affairs**

**Josh Candelaria**  
Director

May 2, 2016

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez  
Chair, Appropriations Committee  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 2255 (Melendez) - As Amended on April 26, 2016 - SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Gonzalez:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 2255, legislation that would define "drug and alcohol free residences" and provide for the certification of these residences by a certifying organization approved by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to register drug and alcohol free residences.

Residential group homes vary in size, service model and persons served. As a result, there are a variety of different types of homes that do not always adequately serve the needs of clients or address the concerns of nearby residents.

Designated certifying non-profit organizations—with qualified staff and long histories of quality assessment of sober living—will approve drug and alcohol free residences for certification and will also respond to complaints from the public or local governments.

AB 2255 will grant sober living home operators the ability to apply for a state recognized license if the home meets quality standards and regulations. Through this legislation, security measures will be put in place to protect former abusers from relapsing and to enhance the safety of communities.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 2255. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or [jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov](mailto:jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Ramos".

JAMES RAMOS  
Board of Supervisors Chairman  
Third District Supervisor  
County of San Bernardino

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janice Rutherford".

JANICE RUTHERFORD  
Board of Supervisors  
Second District Supervisor  
County of San Bernardino

c: The Honorable Melissa Melendez  
Members and Consultants, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation

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